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### **The Phenomenal Fourth Grade Garden**

**On November 17, 2006, Team Metro Melrose Staff and Melrose Elementary fourth grade students gathered to celebrate the groundbreaking ceremony of the schools first garden.**

**The students named this beautiful garden: The Phenomenal Fourth Grade Garden. The idea for the garden was to make science more hands-on for the children. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers wanted a science project that will enable the students to take ownership and responsibility for the development. Mr. Welsch stated, “ The garden gives the students a sense of pleasure to see the students taking the initiative and enjoying themselves so much.”**

**The inspiration to this garden came from the curriculum that studies the ecosystem and botany. Once the teacher realized in order to make this garden happened they would need equipment and plants; they contacted Team Metro Melrose for help. Team Metro Melrose Staff adopted the idea of Melrose students tending their own garden and worked their magic. “This is just the beginning of the “Phenomenal Fourth Grade Garden” and it will be a work in progress for years to come” – Ian Welsch Fourth Grade Science**

